



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112

27 Dec 85

Donald:

Here is a copy of the
Beacon Hill Report, as requested.
Understand that Dr. Kohn is
favorably disposed to a symposium.
Keep me posted.

Cargill



6 January 1986

Mr. Lloyd H. Cornett, Jr.
Director, USAF Historical Research Center
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

Dear Mr. Cornett:

Let me introduce myself. My name is [redacted] an historian for the Central Intelligence Agency. For the past three years I have been engaged in researching and writing an extensive history of overhead reconnaissance. That history, all 750 pages, is essentially completed, however, fully one-third of it documents U.S. Air Force, not CIA, history. Several other individuals have also been involved in writing similar histories at U.S. Government expense using similar, but not always the same, resources. They are [redacted] of the Rand Corporation and Col. Paul E. Worthman (USAF, ret.) who undertook the task at the behest of Jimmy Hill, Deputy Director of the Pentagon's Office of Space Systems.

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In mid-December I learned from Paul Worthman of a similar history undertaken by one of your historians, R. Cargill Hall, which met an uncertain fate somewhere between Maxwell AFB and the Air Force Chief Historian, Dr. Richard H. Kohn. After speaking with Cargill on this topic -- using a number of circumlocutions owing to the sensitivity of the subject -- I realized the four of us needed to discuss the subject in greater depth. This would make it possible for all to be aware of the sundry source materials and to devise a more productive and logical approach to a very complex topic. Also, there have been some recent developments in the security area which could benefit all historians.

I broached the matter to Dr. Kohn in a telephone conversation during the week of 16 December. He said that, although he could not sponsor such a meeting, he would be happy to send Cargill Hall to attend it. I then asked Jimmy Hill's permission to invite Paul Worthman. Mr. Hill was very supportive, understood the need for such a gathering, and said he would pay for Worthman's travel and per diem to attend. [redacted] has his own travel budget and readily agreed to come east in late January.

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I will host the meeting at my office in an Agency building in Rosslyn, Virginia, on Thursday, 23 January 1986. In addition to the four of us, a representative of CIA's Office of Security will be present to answer any questions we might have regarding classification and compartmentation. I hope that Cargill can fly to Washington on Wednesday, 22 January, and return on Friday, 24 January, so as to be able to spend all day Thursday discussing the topic.

Cordially,

[redacted]

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